

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TUNIS 00784 041057Z

20

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 /064 W

----- 042829

R 040953Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1571

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY NIABAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TUNIS 0784

E9\$9.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AG, MO, SS, TS

SUBJ: NOUIRA STATEMENT CRITICAL OF ALGERIA RE SAHARA

1. DURING DESTOURIAN SOCIALIST PARTY (PSD) CENTRAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL MEETING ON JANUARY 30, PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA INCLUDED REMARKS ON SAHARA CONFLICT IN SPEECH DEVOTED LARGEY TO DOMESTIC ISSUES. NOUIRA TOOK NOTE OF DANGER THAT THIS ACUTE CRISIS COULD BE TRANSFORMED INTO A FRATRICIDAL WAR AND ASKED IF MAGHREBIANS ARE NOT PUTTING THEIR COUNTRIES ON THE ROAD TO AN INFERNAL CYCLE FOR REASONS HAVING NOTHING TO DO WITH THE REAL INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE. ARE WE, HE ADDED, BECOMING INVOLUNTARY PAWNS IN A GAME WHOSE RULES ARE LAID DOWN ELSEWHERE? HE SUMMARIZED THE INTEREST OF THE MAGHREBIANS IN THE SAHARA AS BEING THE REMOVAL OF A COLONIAL POWER, SAID TUNISIA IS AS MUCH ATTACHED AS ANYONE TO THE UN CHARTER AND THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION, AND ASSERTED THAT TUNISIA HAD APPRAISED THE SAHARA SITUATION TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE POSITIONS OF COUNTRIES BORDERING THE WESTERN SAHARA AND CONCERNED WITH ITS DECOLONIZATIONDV

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TUNIS 00784 041057Z

2. NOUIRA THEN DEPLORED THAT TUNISIA'S POSITION, "DICTATED BY EXCELLENT INTENTIONS AND A SINCERE DESIRE TO CONCILIATE BROTHERS IN CONFLICT," HAD BEEN MISUNDERSTOOD TO THE POINT THAT REMONSTRANCES HAD TAKEN ON THE MOST \$*483,\$)6 59,3. SLOGANS, HE SAID, HAD BEEN ADDRESSED TO PEOPLE OVER THE HEADS OF THEIR GOVERNMENTYN A PRACTICE HE HAD THOUGHT DEFINITIVELY BANNED IN THE MACHREK AS WELL AS IN THE MAGHREB. HE ASSERTED THAT TUNISIA DOES NOT HAVE MAJOR PROBLEMS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF ISSUE WHICH "WE HAVE TRIED IN VAIN FOR YEARS TO SETYE AMICABLY WITH LIBYA." FINALLY, NOUIRA DECLARED THAT TUNISIA WILL NOT SUBORDINATE COOPERATION BETWEEN NORTH AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO IDEOLOGICAL CRITERIA. NOUIRA CALLED ON ALGIERA AND MOROCCO TO RETURN TO REASON AND AVOID FURTHER BLOODSHED AND PROMISED THAT TUNISIA WILL SPARE NO EFFORT TO LEAD THE TWO COUNTRIES TO END THE FIGHTING.

3. COMMENT: THE GOT IS NOT HAPPY ABOUT ALGERIAN PROPAGANDA ATTACKS, AND IS CONCERNED THAT THE ALGERIAN-MOROCCAN CONFLICT WILL SPREAD AND TAKE ON WIDER IMPLICATIONS. NOUIRA AVOIDED THE APPEARANCE OF TAKING SIDES IN THE CONFLICT BUT GOT'S PREVIOUS SUPPORT FOR MOROCCO AND HIS CRITICISM OF ALGERIA'S PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN LEFT LITTLE DOUBT ABOUT WHERE TUNISIA STANDS. PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA INCIDENTALLY MADE NO REFERENCE TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN HIS SPEECH TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.
SSNLYE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT, SPEECHES, PARTY MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976TUNIS00784
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760042-0156
From: TUNIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760281/aaaactnq.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 03 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NOUIRA STATEMENT CRITICAL OF ALGERIA RE SAHARA
TAGS: PFOR, AG, MO, SS, TS, (NOUIRA, HEDI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006